EXHIBITIONS AND NOTICES.

April 8, 1913.

Sir John Rose Bradford, K.C.M.G., M.D., D.Sc., F.R.S., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The Secretary read the following report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of March, 1913 :—

The number of registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of March last was 133. Of these 45 were acquired by presentation, 58 by purchase, 11 were received on deposit, 6 in exchange, and 13 were born in the Gardens.

The number of departures during the same period, by deaths and removals, was 167.

Amongst the additions special attention may be directed to :—

1 Kandt's Cercopitheque (*Cercopithecus kandti*), from Lake Kivu, new to the Collection, deposited on March 7th.

2 Canadian Porcupines (*Erithizon dorsatus*), from North America, presented by W. O. Danckwerts, Esq., K.C., F.Z.S., on March 19th.

1 Kordofan Giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis antiquorum*) ♂, born in the Menagerie on March 13th.

1 Greenland Falcon (*Hierofalco candicans*), captured in Mid-Atlantic, and presented by Lt.-Col. F. B. Drage, R.H.G., and the Hon. John Hubert Ward, C.V.O., on March 30th.

2 Purple Kaleege Pheasants (*Gennæus horsfieldi*), from the Himalayas, presented by the Marquess of Tavistock, F.Z.S., on March 3rd.

2 Keysser's Cassowaries (*Casuarius keysseri*), from German New Guinea, received on deposit in immature plumage last September, but identified as new to the Collection on March 12th.

4 Banded Trichogaster (*Trichogaster fasciatus*), from India, new to the Collection, purchased on March 14th.

1 Central-African Mud-fish (*Protopterus æthiopicus*), from Uganda, new to the Collection, presented by C. W. Woodhouse, Esq., on March 1st.

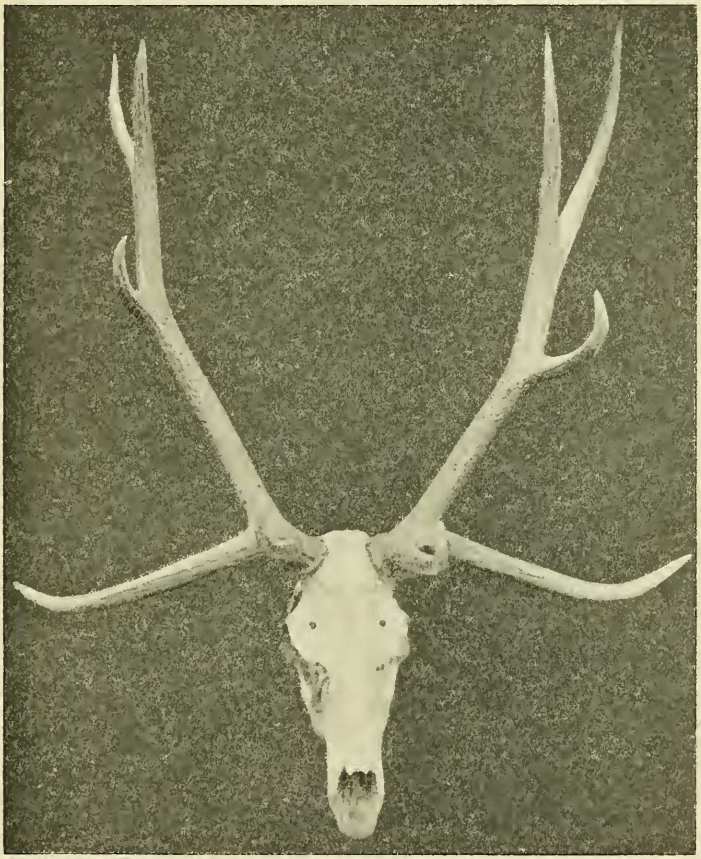
2 Gibbous Scorpions (*Buthus gibbosus*), from Sardis, Asia Minor, new to the Collection, presented by Miss Flora Russell on March 11th.

Mr. H. J. Elwes, F.R.S., F.Z.S., exhibited the head of an Asiatic Wapiti (text-figs. 83 & 84), remarkable for the outward extension of the bay or bez tines, and made the following remarks :—

"The antlers I exhibit were bought in Moscow on my return from Formosa in May 1912 of Mr. Lorenz, who informed me that

they had come direct from the Sayansk Mountains, east of the Upper Yenesei River. The only original account I know of the Deer of this region, though no doubt more recent information exists in Russian, is by Radde in 'Reisen im Süden von Ost-Sibirien,' St. Petersburg 1862, vol. i. p. 284. Radde considered the species to be *C. elaphus*, and says that it was found up to

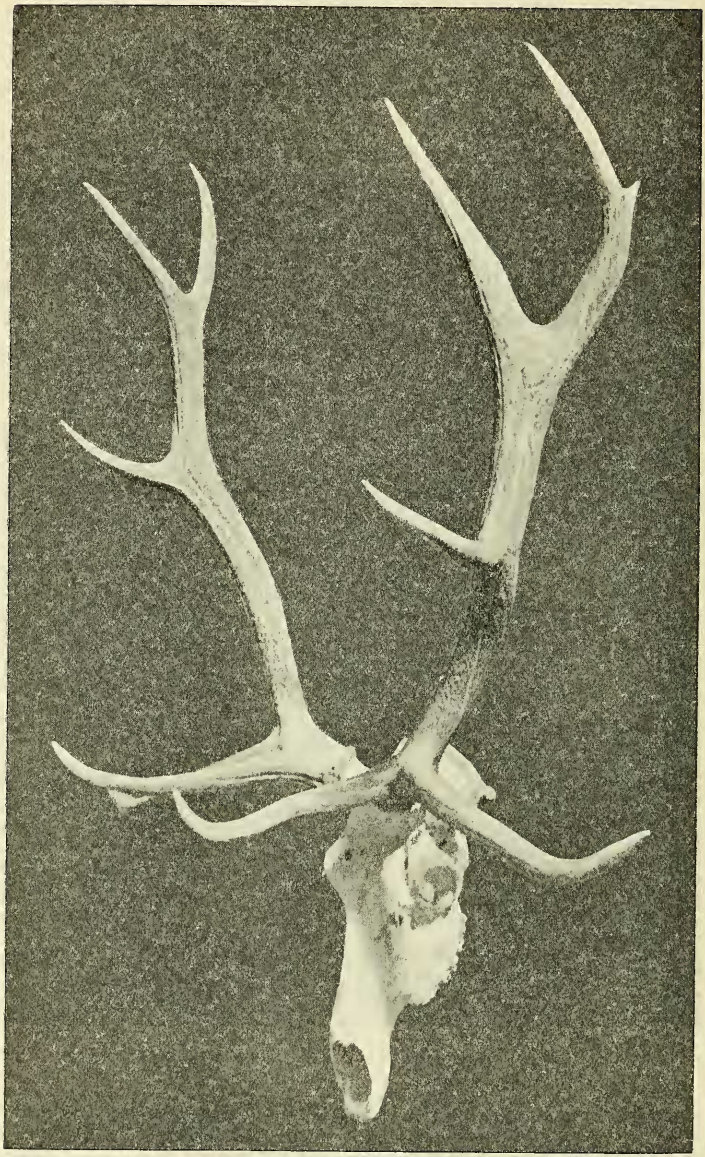
Text-fig. 83.



Front view of antlers of Asiatic Wapiti from the Sayansk Mountains.

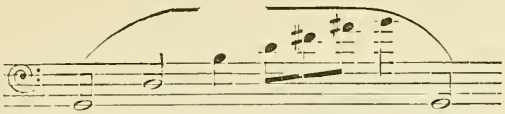
and above tree-level on the Sayansk, Baikal, Apfel, and Chingan Mountains, frequenting the thickest forests and islands on the Amur, but wandering in summer as high up as the glacier of Munku-Sardik and over the bare peaks of the Sayansk Mountains.

Text-fig. 84.



Semi-profile view of antlers of Asiatic Wapiti.

"He gives the rutting cry, as imitated by the native hunters with a hollow stem of *Calisace daurica*, as follows, which seems to me to have some resemblance to that of the American Wapiti:—



"In a paper read by me at the Linnean Society on Dec. 15, 1898*, I spoke of some horns from the Yenesei Valley in the St. Petersburg Museum, which I thought had more resemblance to those of *Cervus elaphus*, having a distinct cup or crown of 6 or 7 tines branching from the same point on the beam, as sometimes seen in old European specimens of *C. elaphus*, but never, so far as I know, in any other Asiatic form of Wapiti. But I have not been able to examine them recently; and the horns shown to-night belong, without doubt, to a race of the Asiatic Wapiti known as *C. eustephanus* Blanford, which name I think preferable to *C. canadensis*, var. *siberica* Severtzoff, though the latter has priority. But until the races of Asiatic Wapiti are better known, I think it is premature to name them definitely, and it cannot be done without careful examination of specimens in the St. Petersburg Museum.

"The bez or bay antlers in my specimen (text-fig. 83) are clearly abnormal in their position. The development of the back tines, though clearly of Wapiti type, is also poor."

April 22, 1913.

E. T. Newton, Esq., F.R.S., in the Chair.

Mr. R. H. Burne, M.A., F.Z.S., exhibited two pairs of malformed antlers of an Axis Deer (*Cervus axis*), lately presented to the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons by Capt. Stanley S. Flower, F.Z.S. The deer was born in the Giza Zoological Gardens in 1899, the malformed antlers being shed in 1905 and 1906. The second pair showed a common malformation, *i. e.* duplicity of the brow tine, but the first pair suggested rather an injury during growth than a congenital malformation. At a similar point in each antler the beam was abruptly bent inwards upon itself at a very acute angle. The apical tines also were stunted, probably owing to an interference with the blood-supply brought about by the sharp bend in the beam.

* Journ. Linn. Soc., Zool. xxvii. p. 23.

Mr. E. G. Boulenger, F.Z.S., Curator of Reptiles, exhibited a number of living specimens of the Leaf-Insect (*Phyllium crurifolium*), presented to the Society by Dr. Alfred Russell, which had been reared from eggs laid in captivity, and which showed various stages of development.

May 6, 1913.

Dr. Henry Woodward, F.R.S., Vice-President, in the Chair.

Mr. E. G. Boulenger, F.Z.S., Curator of Reptiles, exhibited a living melanistic specimen of the Green Lizard (*Lacerta viridis*) recently received from Dalmatia.

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*A new Species of Golden Mole.**

Dr. R. Broom, C.M.Z.S., exhibited an example of a new species of Golden Mole from the Transvaal, of which he gave the following account:—

"For a couple of years I have known that a species of Golden Mole occurred near Johannesburg in the Transvaal, but until a few weeks ago the only specimen I had seen was a badly stuffed skin without the skull. Recently I found that two specimens had been ploughed out on the farm Vischkuil, near Springs, and had been skinned by a native. Fortunately the complete carcase of one was still to be had, and most of the skin. On examining the skull I found to my great surprise that the Mole is not a typical *Chrysochloris*, but belongs to the subgenus *Bematiscus*, hitherto only known from Natal and Eastern Cape Colony. The species is a near ally of *Bematiscus villosus* Smith, one of the least known South African forms.

"So few specimens of *B. villosus* are known that we do not at present know the degree of variability of the species, and thus cannot be quite sure whether the few specimens at present placed under that specific name really all belong to one species. The type specimen described by Smith is in the British Museum. It is nearly full grown, and is stated to have come from Natal. The underfur is of very fine texture, and of a slaty-grey colour. The long hairs, which are comparatively few in number, have the outer, flattened portion 10 to 15 mm. in length and of a pale greyish-brown tint, rather darker towards the tips. The fewness of the bristly hairs and their length give the fur a rough harsh feeling.

* [The complete account of this new species appears here; but since the name and a preliminary diagnosis were published in the 'Abstract,' it is distinguished by being underlined.—Editor.]

"The skull of Smith's type is well figured by Dobson, and though barely mature is sufficiently near full size for purposes of comparison.

"Dobson described and figured a second specimen which he believed to be *Chrysochloris villosa*, but he recognised differences which he thought might be specific. When working at the Golden Moles some years ago, I thought it well to keep the varieties of *B. villosus* under the one species, though I called attention to the fact of one of the specimens in the Maritzburg Museum having a dark slaty, almost black fur. The specimens are so few in number—there being, so far as I am aware, only five skins in the museums of the world—that one hesitates to split up the Natal supposed *B. villosus* specimens into two species, but it seems likely that when more specimens are obtained at least two subspecies and possibly even species will be recognised.

"Whatever be the case with the Natal specimens, there is no doubt that the present Transvaal specimen is not Smith's *Chrysochloris villosa*, and almost as certainly it is not the same as Dobson's type.

"The Transvaal specimen, for which I propose the name

BEMATISCUS TRANSVAALENSIS,

Abstract P. Z. S. 1913, p. 25 (May 13),

has a thick soft fur very unlike that of Smith's *B. villosus*. The underfur is much shorter and less woolly, and the terminal flattened portion of the hair is less bristly and very much shorter, being only about 7 or 8 mm. in length, instead of 10 to 15 mm. as in *B. villosus*. The terminal portion of the hair is a rich reddish-brown, becoming very dark towards the tip. The whole dorsal side of the animal has thus a reddish-brown tint. On the abdominal surface the reddish tinge has almost disappeared and the fur has a slaty tint. The fur from the sides of the head and nose has been destroyed.

"The claws of the manus of *B. transvaalensis* measure: 1st, 3·7 mm.; 2nd, 16·5; 3rd, 10; 4th, 1·5. The hind foot measures 16 mm., and the length of the body is about 155 mm. The type is a female.

"The skull differs from that of *B. villosus* in a number of characters. The huge crest which rises up from the zygomatic arch is even better developed than in *B. trevelyani*, and a plane laid across the tops of the crests is 2 mm. above the cranial wall. In *B. villosus* the crests pass forwards and outwards, and at a distance of 7 mm. in front of the top of the occiput are 10·5 mm. apart in Smith's type. In Dobson's type they are 10 mm. apart. In *B. transvaalensis* the crest runs forward for some distance nearly parallel, and at a point 7 mm. in front of the occiput are only 6·5 mm. apart. Another important point in the skull is the very much larger temporal bulla. In *B. villosus* the bulla is about 7 mm. in diameter, in *B. transvaalensis* it is 10 mm. in diameter.

"The following skull measurements (in millimetres) indicate the slight differences in size :—

	Length.	Breadth.	Height.	Dental Series.
"Smith's type	33	20·5	15·5	13·5
Dobson's specimen..... ...	34	22	17	13
B. transvaalensis	34·5	23·5	17·5	14·5

"The teeth in the specimen of *B. transvaalensis* are in front partly the milk and partly the permanent set. The 1st upper premolar has no internal cusp. The molars are appreciably larger than in *B. villosus*. In *B. villosus* the 2nd molar measures 2 mm. in width; in *B. transvaalensis* it measures 2·5 mm.; and there is an even greater difference in the size of the last molar.

"The type has been deposited in the British Museum."

Dr. Broom also exhibited an adult female of the large S. African Lizard, *Zonurus giganteus*, with two newly-born young (Pl. LXXIV.), and three adult male specimens of the allied species *Pseudocordylus microlepidotus*.

He gave the following particulars of *Zonurus giganteus* :—

"The mother was given to me by Mr. F. W. Fitzsimons, F.Z.S., of the Port Elizabeth Museum. On opening the box containing the specimen on arrival in London it was found that two young had been born on the voyage. The young differ in appearance very considerably from the mother, being much more brightly coloured. Young specimens in the British Museum collection are described by Mr. G. A. Boulenger as "light yellowish, marbled and cross-barred with blackish brown; the spines not at all developed, and all the scales more strongly imbricate."

"These young also show the marked imbrication of the scales which is largely due to their having no supporting dermal ossification. This gives the tail especially a very different appearance from that of the adult. The colour may be described as yellowish, with, on the back, irregular cross-bands of black. The top of the head is blackish, but in most of the antorbital region the yellowish colour predominates. The scales round the eye are mostly bright yellow, but there is a black spot on the upper eyelid and a less distinct one on the lower. The 4th lower labial has a large black mark, and a black mark extends above this on the upper jaw to the eye. The scales above the tympanum are yellow. On the back the light bands, especially towards the lower half, become very distinctly reddish, and on the tail about half the scales are a light brick-red. The legs are irregularly banded yellow and black, and the front of the body is pale straw-coloured except the neck, which has a number of large black spots. The young measure about 5 inches in length. Mr. E. G. Boulenger assures me that the young are feeding satisfactorily and look lively."